



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

**County of Los Angeles**  
**Sheriff's Department Headquarters**  
**4700 Ramona Boulevard**  
**Monterey Park, California 91754-2169**



September 2, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN A VOLUNTEER FUND-RAISING EVENT TO  
SUPPORT THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION  
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve authorization to participate in a two-day volunteer fund-raising event, to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), to solicit donations at predesignated intersections throughout the County and contract cities.
2. Approve the use of County equipment during the event.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Sheriff's Department has been invited by the MDA to participate in a volunteer fund-raising event. The monies collected will assist the MDA to continue its invaluable research. The MDA is a nonprofit, charitable organization known for funding research for debilitating, and often deadly, diseases such as: Muscular Dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's Disease. These diseases have had a devastating, life altering impact on persons from all walks of life throughout Los Angeles County. Recently, a Sheriff's Department lieutenant was forced into early retirement due to Lou Gehrig's Disease.

By participating in this fund-raising event, it will provide the Sheriff's Department an opportunity to express appreciation to the MDA for all that it has done to assist personnel from our Department and the community at large.

*A Tradition of Service*

### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This fund-raising event promotes the County's vision with respect to improving the quality of life and well-being of individuals and families, who have been touched by these diseases. Assisting the MDA will most likely increase their donations, ultimately increasing the amount of research done.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

This campaign will be conducted at a minimal cost to the Sheriff's Department. The anticipated costs will be identified by the cost of gasoline use when utilizing 20 marked police vehicles. It is estimated that each vehicle will travel a maximum of ten miles, therefore, the direct costs are estimated to be under \$100.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The MDA is well known for its successful fund-raising events, two of which are the annual MDA Telethon and the "Fill the Boot" campaign. This campaign will be conducted in a fashion similar to the nationally renowned "Fill the Boot" campaign, conducted annually by the local fire departments. If approved, the Sheriff's Department's fund-raising program will be called "Be A Shining Star," and will take place over a two-day period, of which the dates will be determined.

Pursuant to California Government Code §26227, your Board may authorize this fund raising program if it finds that the social needs of the population of the County are met. The funds raised by the Sheriff's Department will help the ongoing research of the diseases, cures, and treatments to many victims, some of which are County department members and/or their families. This will undoubtedly improve the quality of life and well-being of the population of the Los Angeles County.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

Participation will be voluntary and department-wide. Volunteer personnel will be drawn from the ranks of sworn and professional staffs. They will be asked to participate on a strictly volunteer basis, using their own time, without any form of coercion. They will not be made to believe that participation is mandatory, nor will they receive any illegal inducements, in the form of preferential treatment or coveted assignments by management. These volunteers will wear shirts provided by the MDA, which will identify them as volunteers and members of the Sheriff's Department. The volunteers will solicit donations at predesignated intersections throughout the County and contract

cities. It is estimated that by staffing 20 selected sites with five to ten volunteers each, \$200,000 can be generated.

The Department wishes to use 20 marked police vehicles, one for each location. The emergency lights will be activated to further clarify the Sheriff's involvement. Because these vehicles will not be scheduled for regular patrol use during that time period, and because they will be driven by unpaid volunteer personnel, the only direct costs incurred by the Sheriff's Department would be fuel at the regular mileage rate. In addition, the Department wishes to use a currency counter, normally used to count large quantities of seized currency. This machine is only used when there are large seizures of currency and would be utilized only during times when it is not needed to conduct County business.

The Department plans to make use of the MDA's expertise in the coordination of this event. The MDA will participate in the recruitment of volunteer personnel and provide support necessary for a successful campaign. The MDA's participation will include briefing Department personnel, prior to their participation in any fund raising, and conducting any necessary training. The MDA will also obtain the necessary permits, provide all promotional materials, and assist with the overall coordination of this event. Sheriff's Department volunteer personnel will be responsible for providing logistical support for the collection and counting of donations received during this event.

### **CONCLUSION**

Participation in this endeavor will enhance the stature and image of the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Department, and the County of Los Angeles. It will also provide monetary assistance to a charity which has provided medical and psychological assistance to county employees.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leroy D. Baca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leroy" and last name "Baca" clearly distinguishable.

LEROY D. BACA  
SHERIFF